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July 12, 2004

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FCC - MAILROOM

FCC, Office of the Secretary 455 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

I am submitting an appeal to a decision from the Schools and Library Division of the Universal Services Fund. CC Docket No. 02-6

Billed Entity Number:

16021079

471 Application Number:

435405

Funding Request Numbers: 1213731,1213732

I am requesting a waiver of the rules to allow our application to be processed. According to the SLD letter they received a 471 application from us with a blank signature block in Block 6, Item 34. They also have claimed that we did not submit the application in the allowed window as they claim the postmark for the item was on February 5.

I am attaching a photocopy of the receipt from the US Postal Service for the 471 form which was mailed on February 4th, 2004. This is within the allowed submission window.

I am requesting that the FCC secretary allow the 471 form to be processed through the SLD system to allow our schools to receive the discounts outlined in the 471 form. It may or may not be of interest to you, but our schools represent some of the poorest schools in the United States. The 2000 Census lists Shannon County as on of the 10 poorest counties in the United States. It was for our types of situations that the Universal Services program was started and we have had consistently difficult times receiving resources from SLD.

Thank you for your help on this matter.

Respectfully yours,

Theodore L. Hamilton

(605) 867-5654

(308) 862-1313

Hamilton@gwtc.net

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